

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 7 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1-4 and 8-12 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for generating an archive file that stores a plurality of various digital documents, comprising:

a checking step of determining based on a predetermined reference whether each of the plurality of various digital document-documents is to be stored in a compressed or non-compressed state, wherein the plurality of various digital documents include a first digital document and a second digital document;

a compressing step of generating compressed data for a-the first digital document when it is determined in said checking step that the first digital document is to be stored in a compressed state;

a non-compressing step of generating non-compressed data for -atthe second digital document when it is determined in said checking step that the second document is to be stored in a non-compressed state; and

a generation step of generating the archive file that stores both the compressed first digital document and the non-compressed second digital document.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined reference is an access frequency to each digital document, and wherein it is determined based on the access frequency in said checking step whether each of the plurality of various digital documents is to be stored in a compressed or non-compressed state.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined reference is a format of each digital document, and wherein it is determined based on the format of each digital document in said checking step whether each of the plurality of various digital documents is to be stored in a compressed or non-compressed state.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined reference is a compression ratio ~~upon compressing~~ of each digital document, and wherein it is determined based on compression ratio of each digital document in said checking step whether each of the plurality of various digital documents is to be stored in a compressed or non-compressed state.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising an extraction step of extracting a digital document from the archive file generated in the generation step.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising an acquisition step of acquiring a desired digital document using a table, and wherein the table has location information of each stored digital document, and is contained in the archive file.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium storing a computer program ~~of claim 7~~ for causing a computer to execute the information processing method of claim 1.

9. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus for generating an archive file that stores a plurality of various digital documents, comprising:

a checking unit that determines based on a predetermined reference whether each of the plurality of various digital document documents is to be stored in a compressed or non-compressed state, wherein the plurality of various digital documents include a first digital document and a second digital document;

a compressing unit that generates compressed data for ~~a~~the first digital document when said checking unit determines that the first digital document is to be stored in a compressed state;

a non-compressing unit that generates non-compressed data for ~~a~~the second digital document when said checking unit determines that the second document is to be stored in a non-compressed state; and

a generation unit which generates the archive file that stores both the compressed first digital document and the non-compressed second digital document.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the predetermined reference is an access frequency to each digital document, and wherein said checking unit determines based on the access frequency whether each of the plurality of various digital documents is to be stored in a compressed or non-compressed state.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the predetermined reference is a format of each digital document, and wherein said checking unit determines based on the format of each digital document whether each of the plurality of various digital documents is to be stored in a compressed or non-compressed state.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the predetermined reference is a compression ratio upon compressing each digital document, and wherein said checking unit determines based on the compression ratio of each digital document whether each of the plurality of various digital documents is to be stored in a compressed or non-compressed state.

13. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising an extraction unit which extracts a digital document from the archive file generated by the generation unit.

14. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising an unit which acquires a desired digital document using a table, and wherein the table has location information of each stored digital document, and is contained in the archive file.

15. (Previously Presented) An information processing method for generating an archive file that stores a plurality of digital documents, comprising:
a checking step of determining based on a predetermined condition whether each digital document is to be uploaded to a server;

a compressing step of generating compressed data for a first digital document when it is determined in said checking step that the first digital document is not to be uploaded to a server;

an abstract generating step of generating non-compressed abstract data for a second digital document when it is determined in the checking step that the second digital document is to be uploaded;

an uploading step of uploading the second digital document, which is determined in the checking step to be uploaded, to the server; and

an archive file generation step of generating an archive file which stores both the non-compressed abstract data of the second digital document which is determined in the checking step to be uploaded, and the compressed data for the first digital document which is determined in the checking step not to be uploaded, wherein the archive file does not store the main body of the second digital document which is determined in the checking step to be uploaded.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein the predetermined condition is used to check whether or not a digital document is set with a valid date.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the valid date is a print valid date.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein the predetermined condition is used to check whether or not a file size of a digital document is larger than a predetermined threshold value.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein the archive file generated in the archive file generation step stores information associated with the digital document which is uploaded to the server.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 15, further comprising a step of presenting the abstract data of the uploaded digital document to a user.

21. (Original) The method according to claim 15, further comprising a step of acquiring the uploaded digital document or a digital document stored in the archive file.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the acquisition step includes a step of acquiring a digital document designated by a user.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 15, further comprising a compression step of compressing a digital document, and wherein the digital document stored in the archive file generated in the archive file generation step is the digital document compressed in the compression step.

24. (Original) A computer program for making a computer execute respective steps in an information processing method of claim 15.

25. (Original) A computer readable storage medium storing a computer program of claim 24.

26. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus for generating an archive file that stores a plurality of digital documents, comprising:

a checking unit which determines based on a predetermined condition whether each digital document is to be uploaded to a server;

a compressing unit that generates compressed data for a first digital document when it is determined by said checking unit that the first digital document is not to be uploaded to a server;

an abstract generating unit which generates non-compressed abstract data for a second digital document when it is determined by the checking unit that the second digital document is to be uploaded;

an uploading unit which uploads the second digital document, which is determined by the checking unit to be uploaded, to the server; and

an archive file generation unit which generates an archive file which stores the non-compressed abstract data of the second digital document which is determined by the checking unit to be uploaded, and the compressed data for the first digital document which is determined

by the checking unit not to be uploaded, wherein the archive file does not store the main body of the second digital document which is determined by the checking unit to be uploaded.

27. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the predetermined condition is used to check whether or not a digital document is set with a valid date.

28. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the valid date is a print valid date.

29. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the predetermined condition is used to check whether or not a file size of a digital document is larger than a predetermined threshold value.

30. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the archive file generated by the archive file generation unit stores information associated with the digital document which is uploaded to the server.

31. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising a unit which presents the abstract data of the uploaded digital document to a user.

32. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising a unit which acquires the uploaded digital document or a digital document stored in the archive file.

33. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the acquisition unit includes a unit which acquires a digital document designated by a user.

34. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising a unit which compresses a digital document, and wherein the digital document stored in the archive file generated by the archive file generation unit is the digital document compressed in the compression unit.

35. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the second digital document is decompressed in said non-compressing step when the second digital document has already been compressed,

and wherein the second digital document is not compressed in said non-compressing step when the second digital document is already in a non-compressed state.

36. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first digital document is compressed in said compressing step when the first digital document is not compressed,

and wherein the first digital document is not compressed in said compressing step when the first digital document is already compressed.